

EPA's PFOA REDUCTION EFFORTS

ISSUE/TOPIC:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

BACKGROUND:

- In late 1999, the EPA received data and began an investigation into concerns that (perfluorooctane sulfonate) PFOS was being found in human blood and the environment worldwide. Following discussions between the EPA and 3M, the manufacturer of PFOS, the company terminated production in 2002.
- EPA followed with a wide range of voluntary and regulatory actions to better understand the potential risks of exposure to PFOS, PFOA, and other perfluorinated chemicals.
- EPA also has taken a number of regulatory actions under TSCA to limit any future manufacture or import of certain perfluorinated chemicals. Since 2000, EPA has published Significant New Use Rules (SNURs) impacting several hundred chemicals in these classes.
- In January 2015, EPA proposed to require manufacturers (including importers) and processors of PFOA and related chemicals who do not have ongoing uses of PFOA to notify EPA at least 90 days before starting or resuming new uses of these chemicals in any products.
- In May 2016, EPA established non-regulatory health advisories for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water based on the agency's assessment of the latest peer-reviewed science.

TALKING POINTS:

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